it is a pity that several of these and most of the radiographs have been severely reduced in size, thus increasing their complexity and making it difficult to see important details.

In the sections on the peripheral nervous system and the organs of special sense, a novel method is used in which the leader lines from the figures pass to the names in the text. Unfortunately a typographical exercise of this complexity, which must have raised enormous problems both for the authors and for the printers, has produced a confusing page in which a number of illustrations have had to be cut down to such an extent and arranged in such unusual positions that it is frequently difficult to determine their orientation, and the student is unable either to use the illustrations by themselves or to follow the sequence of the text without difficulty.

The section on the central nervous system is arranged in an unusual order, for it deals first with the main pathways and subsequently with the gross anatomy of the brain. It contains a large number of excellent illustrations, but some of these are of such complexity as to frighten all but the most stout hearted. There is no doubt that these illustrations are imaginative and accurate (though the presence of a perineuronal space can no longer be supported, and the cavum trigeminale does not usually surround the divisions of the trigeminal nerve beyond the ganglion), and that the difficulties of illustrating the central nervous organization in three dimensions are very great, but it is doubtful whether the average undergraduate will be able or willing to expend the effort needed to grasp the full meaning of these illustrations, though he would certainly profit from doing so.

Much of what has been said is critical, but the book contains many excellent and original features, not least of which is the extensive use of entirely new illustrations which show evidence of the amount of care and thought which has gone into the production of this textbook, and the appearance of a virtually unaltered second edition only seven years after the first is ample evidence of its popularity.

8TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGY Series 94/E. (*Excerpta Medica*, Amsterdam). (Pp. 252. 70s.) 1965.

Owing to the large number of participants, the Proceedings of the 8th International Congress of Neurology were published in five separate volumes, the symposia on selected themes being separated from the free communications. The present volume is not, in fact, part of the Proceedings of the Congress but merely contains those abstracts which were submitted in advance and which were precirculated to Congress participants. The quoted price seems excessive for 240 pages of abstracts without illustrations, but this presumably reflects the current cost of publishing scientific material.

KLINIK UND ELEKTROMYOGRAPHIE DER SPONTANAKTIVITÄT DES MENSCHLICHEN SKELETMUSKELS By Klaus Mayer. (Pp. 57; 28 figures. DM.24.-) Berlin: Springer Verlag. 1965.

This monograph contains an account of the author's clinical and experimental studies into the resting and

voluntary activity of human muscles, recorded by standard electromyographic techniques. The study has been meticulously carried out and the work is clearly described and beautifully illustrated. If one were to make any criticism, it would be that the author has omitted all mention of nerve conduction tests. This gives an air of unreality to his descriptions of the carpal tunnel syndrome and other peripheral nerve lesions in which muscle sampling without nerve stimulation is of limited clinical value.

YEAR BOOK OF NEUROLOGY, PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROSURGERY Edited by R. P. Mackay, S. B. Wortis, and O. Sugar. (Pp. 704; illustrated; 83s.) Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers Inc. 1966.

The clinician toiling in the fields of the neurological sciences knows full well that with each passing year he possesses a decreasing share, relatively speaking, of the expanding knowledge of the nervous system. He accumulates experience but, what with the vagaries of memory and the endless flow of literature, he must have something like the Year Book to turn to annually, so that his morale may be sustained by a brief survey of progress. It is best to read it leisurely but considerably; flipping through the pages he may find disheartening as he realizes what new things he must be watching for, or doing, or even just thinking about.

In his introduction to the Neurology section, the Editor writes feelingly of 'gadgets in neurological diagnosis' and of the neglect of the clinical history and examination in the United States. It is less evident in Great Britain, but it is undoubtedly a trend everywhere. A neurological 'opinion' in many places up and down the country is now only too often characterized by the scantiest clinical comment plus the reports of a radiologist, an electroencephalographer, and perhaps a laboratory worker. How to convince the young doctor that he must master the old-fashioned art of history taking and clinical examination, when all round him he hears that medicine is now a science and that the future will be decided in the laboratory, is a battle which his teachers are not winning.

In this useful book the clinician will have no difficulty, each year, in finding something new, refreshing and eye-opening. Reading it is the easiest way of catching a glimpse of the extraordinary directions in which neurology is developing.

J. D. SPILLANE

ATLAS OF ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPHY VOLUME THREE, NEUROLOGICAL AND PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS By Frederick A. Gibbs and Erna L. Gibbs. (Pp. 538; 309 plates. £28 3s.) Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley Publishing Co. 1964.

It is a great pleasure to welcome this long-awaited final volume of 'The Atlas'—and there is no need to emphasize the interest and importance attaching to its publication. The delay in its appearance stems from the fact that it proved, not unexpectedly, a much more extensive undertaking than originally envisaged, partly because of the need to take account of the effect of age on E.E.G. abnormalities; this obviously has been worthwhile and

the authors are to be congratulated on completing their task. The great and dedicated labour is clearly reflected in the text which precisely matches previous numbers in format with abundant illustrations and graphs.

This volume concerns disorders classified as 'not epilepsy', but it nevertheless deals briefly with the findings in the two previous volumes (Methodology and Controls; Epilepsy), and for those not fortunate enough to possess these the new volume is reassuringly complete in itself. There is a detailed early section dealing with the significance of certain specific E.E.G. findings in relation to age, aetiology of disorder, and type of symptoms, the findings being contrasted with data from control groups and from matched patient groups (with normal records) from the same reference source. In subsequent sections varied clinical disorders are considered each in turn, *e.g.*, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, trauma, vascular disease, tumours, intoxications, metabolic, and psychiatric disorders etc., and always there are numerous E.E.G. examples plus selected references. As the authors rightly emphasize some specialists may be disappointed at the amount of attention paid to their special subjects; and some may be unhappy at the kindly mixture of provocative, dogmatic, and highly individualistic opinions sometimes expressed. The elegant diagrams provide abundant food for thought and too much must not be made of any qualifications about statistical treatment. The work is to be appreciated as 'an illustrated compendium of what we have learnt thus far' produced in a human, dedicated and thoughtful manner; and it is as such a record of personal experience that it will be valued for years to come.

E. W. POOLE

A KWIC INDEX OF EEG LITERATURE (AND SOCIETY PROCEEDINGS) Compiled by R. G. Bickford, J. L. Jacobson, and D. Langworthy. (Pp. viii + 581.) £5: \$17.50) Amsterdam: Elsevier Publishing Company. 1965.

This is an interesting and very useful ready reference manual both for the main library and the desk of those concerned with clinical or experimental aspects of brain function. The volume lists over 10,000 publications in its subjects, bibliography, and author indices and clearly reflects its computer origins. The subject index is based on every word in each title judged to be a 'key' word in relation to the paper's content (Key Word In Context); and in each entry sufficient of the title is listed along with accompanying author, year, and other coding data to facilitate selection of appropriate (or familiar) papers. The fuller reference particulars can then be obtained from the second 'bibliography' section by means of the coding data, and all authors are listed in the third section. The E.E.G. Society Proceedings are indexed similarly but separately in the second part of the volume which is rather a disadvantage though it makes the whole work more manageable.

The volume is compact and pleasant to handle, and once the layout has become familiar it provides rapid access to a mass of E.E.G. literature in a way which facilitates quick assessment and encourages valuable browsing. However, some workers may be concerned at

the compromises needed to achieve this. The references (covering an unspecified period) have been arbitrarily restricted to work on slow wave processes (including related single unit discharges) though other subjects have been included where relevant to E.E.G. analysis (*e.g.*, data processing, evoked potential, biochemical, and biophysical, aspects). It is open to doubt whether the content of papers can always be adequately represented by 'key' words in their titles, but the compilers clearly recognize such problems at the outset and emphasize that this is only the beginning of a more comprehensive index. It is to be hoped that workers finding serious limitations in everyday use of this volume will be particularly conscientious in meeting the compilers' request for information about omissions, and also in supplying details of current publications for subsequent editions—chores for which all users should accept active responsibility.

E. W. POOLE

NEUROLOGICAL AND ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPHIC CORRELATIVE STUDIES IN INFANCY Edited by Peter Kellaway and Ingemar Petersen. (Pp. x + 364; illustrated; \$14.75.) New York: Grune and Stratton Inc. 1964.

This book consists of a score of papers and discussions from a conference in 1963 in Houston about developmental aspects of brain electrical activity and morphology. The aim was to bring together a wide range of selected specialists for interdisciplinary discussions, and the varied content of the book reflects this. *In vivo* and *in vitro* maturational studies of both physiological and anatomical aspects are followed by reports on many developmental studies of brain function in humans and in animals, *e.g.*, evoked cortical responses, sleep and waking E.E.G. patterns, seizure susceptibility, infantile convulsions, occipital foci, cerebral asphyxia, and ischaemia. Experimental animal studies are aligned with clinical observations to their mutual benefit though perhaps not to the extent that might have been expected since many of the discussions are brief and fragmentary. The volume, which is well produced with clear illustrations and abundant references, is of considerable interest to the clinician and neurophysiologist in providing a collection of varied information in a form which encourages a broad approach to common and fundamental problems.

E. W. POOLE

PSYCHOSOMATIC NEUROLOGY By Harry A. Tettelbaum. (Pp. x + 414. \$13.75.) New York and London: Grune and Stratton. 1964.

This reads like an enormous D.Phil. or M.D. thesis. The author appears to use the term psychosomatic to mean the mental accompaniments of somatic illness. Thus the mental disturbances of measles or smallpox encephalitis are called psychosomatic. This usage is confusing at times. Most neurologists would regard these symptoms as organically determined and would call them organic. The book is a large compilation of detailed information about the mental accompaniments of a wide range of physical illness including trauma. The style is turgid and verbose, but the book will be useful as the source of a comprehensive if somewhat uncritical reference list.

C. W. M. WHITTY